

## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 3, 2006

## COUNTY ACQUIRES 148 ACRES FOR OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK Land Will Allow for More Recreation, Protection of Habitats

The County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation recently acquired four properties totaling 148 acres for \$3,975,600 to continue development of the Otay Valley Regional Park. The California Coastal Conservancy partially funded the acquisitions with \$2,190,000.

The park is located in the Otay River Valley which extends from the southeastern edge of lower San Diego Bay, east about 13 miles to the Otay Lakes Reservoir. Once the park is completed, South County residents and visitors will enjoy a mix of recreational uses ranging from playing fields and picnic areas to hiking, biking, and horse trails.

"This is an important step in the development of this park," said County Supervisor Greg Cox, who represents District 1, where the park is located. "This acquisition will provide opportunities for high quality parks and recreation experiences while preserving regionally significant natural and cultural resources."

This land acquisition is also an important accomplishment for the County of San Diego's Multiple Species Conservation Program, a plan to maintain and enhance biological diversity in the region while maintaining viable populations of endangered, threatened, and key sensitive species and their habitats.

The Department of Parks and Recreation will conduct a habitat management plan that will optimize public access to Otay Valley Regional Park.

###

